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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/774,877	02/01/2001	Kaushal Shastri	Q62891	3162

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EXAMINER	
FOULADI SEMNANI, FARANAK	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2672	

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/774,877

Applicant(s)

SHASTRI ET AL.

Examiner

Faranak Fouladi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: application, filed on 02/01/01.
2. Claims 1-12 are pending in the case, with claims 1, 5 and 9 being independent.
3. The present title of the application is "Image display Method, Apparatus and Storage Medium" (as originally filed).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hilton et al. US. 5,452,416.
5. Regarding independent claim 1, "an image display method for displaying a plurality of images on a display means, wherein; based on at least one display protocol sequence, in which a plurality of display protocols that define a display layout are lined up in a predetermined order, the display layout of said plurality of images is switched by switching said display protocols and said plurality of images are displayed on said display means." Hilton et al. discloses in col. 6 lines 64 - col. 7 line 3 and col. 7 lines 16-34.

Hilton suggests that the plurality of images is an image series for example an axial T2 series including 18 images for display. Hilton also suggests that the display protocols that define the display layout are predetermined, for example Hilton

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disclose them as "monitor" and "series" mode. In his "monitor mode" col. 6 line 66 Hilton teaches, "the display container is subdivided into rectangular array of 20 presentation areas. In the monitor mode of image presentation, an image series is shown in a single display container in its sequence order such that each presentation area of the display container includes one image of the sequence." In his "series mode" col. 7 line 34 Hilton teaches, "in the series mode, a display container comprising a rectangular array of rectangular presentation area is displayed on one or more monitors. For example, the display container in Fig. 4 includes four substantially rectangular presentation areas numbered 1,2,3, and 4 in the drawing."

6. Regarding dependent claim 2, "...wherein; for cases in which there are multiple display protocol sequences, the desired display protocol sequence can be selected, and based on the selected display protocol sequence, said plurality of images are displayed on the display means." Hilton et al. discloses in col. 5 line 34-40, and col. 6 line 57- col. 7 line 65.

Hilton disclose in col. 5 line 34-40 that "in Fig. 2, the interface processes 14 includes a conventional directly-manipulated user interface 14a which is directly connected to a screen driver 14b. The screen driver 14b is connected to the trackball mechanism 16 and the keyboard 22, passing input from these devices by conventional means directly to the user interface 14a." This is being interpreted as being able to select the desired display protocol sequence.

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7. Regarding dependent claim 3, " ...wherein; said plurality of display protocol sequences can be switched, and based on the display protocol sequence switched to, said plurality of images are displayed on the displayed means." Hilton et al. discloses in col. 7 lines 16-34 and also applicant disclose this in description of the related art section page 3 lines 5- 9.

8. Regarding dependent claim 4,"...wherein; the display protocol sequences are created based on the predetermined conditions, and based on said created display protocol sequence, said plurality of images are displayed on the display means." Hilton et al. disclose in col. 8 lines 24-68.

9. Claims 5-8 recite apparatus for performing the method of claims 1-4; therefore they are similar in scope and rejected under the same rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hilton et al.

11. Claims 9-12 recite a computer-readable medium storing a program for executing the method of claims 1-4. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

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art at the time the invention was made to have implemented the method of claims 1-4 as computer executable instructions stored on a computer-readable medium so that the method of 1-4 can be ported to other computer systems.

Conclusion

12. Any this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should inquiry concerning be directed to **Faranak Fouladi** whose telephone number is **703-305-3223**. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 8:00-4:30.

13. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Michael Razavi** can be reach at **703-305-4713**.

14. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

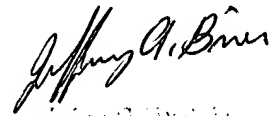
Washington, DC. 20231

Or faxed to: **703-872-9314** (for Technology Center 2600 only)

15. Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, sixth-floor (Receptionist).

16. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

Faranak Fouladi-Semnani
Patent Examiner
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JEFFREY A. BRINER
PRIMARY EXAMINER